

ABSTRACT

In a hotel or short-term office environment, a guest is provided with a connection to a local area network (LAN). A printer, also attached to the LAN,

- 5 allows the guest to make hard copies of documents. Using a browser, the guest is directed to a web site from which may be downloaded an authentication code to allow access to the printer, and a print driver and a port monitor to allow operation of the printer. Following installation of the downloaded software, any print job sent by the laptop to a print server associated with the printer
- 10 includes the authentication code. Upon receipt of the authentication code, the print server authenticates the print job, and sends it to the printer located within the hotel room.

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